

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79ISLAMA005997

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-14 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SMS-01 SAA-01
ACDA-12 HA-05 /121 W

-----067153 271319Z /14

R 241145Z MAY 79
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3128
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE POUCH
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR POUCH
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USUN NEW YORK 1801
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

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..LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 5997

..GENEVA FOR UNHCR; TUNIS FOR KING

..P.O. 12065: NA
..TAGS: PEPR PBOR SREF AF PK UR
SUBJECT: (LOU) SHAHI DENIES PRAVDA CHARGE OF GOP ASSISTANCE TO
AFGHAN DISSIDENTS

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REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 5733(NOTAL) (B) KABUL 3961(NOTAL)
(C) ISLAMABAD 5726(NOTAL) (D) PESHAWAR 125

1. IN A WIDE-RANGING SESSION WITH THE MEDIA, MAY 23, FOREIGN
ADVISOR AGHA SHAHI (IDENTIFIED BY THE PRESS ONLY AS "AN MFA
SPOKESMAN") DENIED RECENTLY PUBLISHED OFFICIAL SOVIET CHARGES
OF PAK "MASSING OF AFGHAN REBEL TROOPS IN PAKISTAN FOR
FULL-SCALE MILITARY ACTION AGAINST AFGHANISTAN."

PAGE NO. 1

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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2. THE MORNING PRESS, MAY 24, REPORTS THAT THE SPOKESMAN CHARACTERIZED THE PRAVDA ARTICLE CARRYING THE CHARGES AS "AN ATTEMPT TO BLAME PAKISTAN FOR THE DIFFICULTIES FACED BY TARAKI IN SUPPRESSING INSURGENCY." HE ALSO CALLED PRAVDA'S WARNING TO THE GOP TO DISCONTINUE SUCH ACTIVITIES "MISDIRECTED AND UNFOUNDED."

3. SHAHI TOLD THE MEDIA THAT AN ADDITIONAL 20,000 AFGHAN REFUGEES HAVE POURED INTO PAKISTAN IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS, BRINGING TO 80,000 THE NUMBER OF AFGHANS SEEKING REFUGE HERE. HE REITERATED THE GOP'S EARLIER STATEMENTS THAT THE AFGHANS ARE RECEIVING ONLY HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE TWO-MAN UNHCR TEAM HAS VISITED THE LOCATIONS WHERE REFUGEES ARE BEING PUT UP AND CAME AWAY "IMPRESSED THAT THE SITUATION WARRANTED ASSISTANCE BY SPECIALIZED AGENCIES SUCH AS FAO, UNICEF AND WHO" (SEPTTEL).

4. SHAHI SAID THE ACTIVITIES AND MOVEMENT OF THE REFUGEE GROUPS ARE NOT INVOLVED IN ANTI-DRA UNDERTAKINGS. HE ADDED THAT THE GOP WOULD WELCOME ACTION BY THE DRA TO STOP THE "MASS EXODUS." THIS CAN BE DONE, HE SUGGESTED BY "CREATING CONDITIONS OF NORMALCY" IN AFGHANISTAN.

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5. WHILE GOP OFFERS TO OPEN "DIALOGUE" WITH THE DRA ON ALL ASPECTS OF BILATERAL RELATIONS HAVE RECEIVED NO RESPONSE FROM KABUL, A PARALLEL DIALOGUE WITH THE SOVIET UNION IS UNDERWAY IN BOTH ISLAMABAD AND MOSCOW, SHAHI SAID. (SEPTTEL).
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